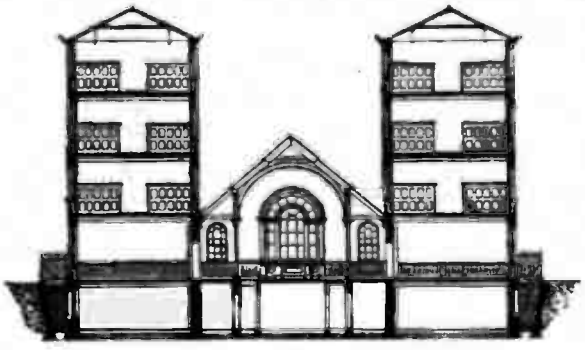
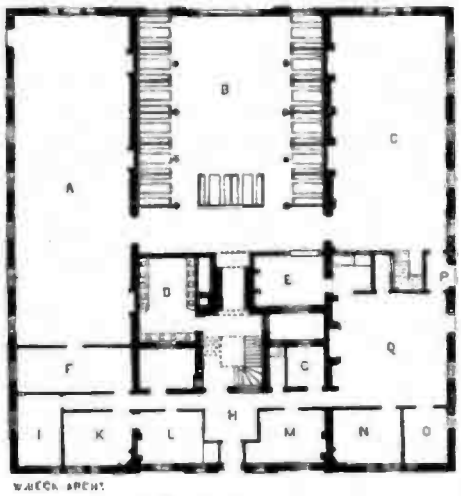
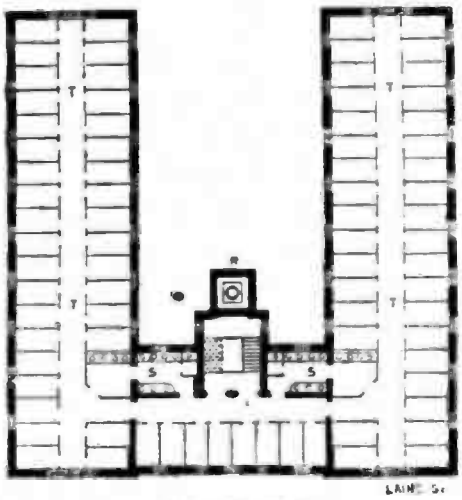
THE ARTISANS' HOME, SPICER-STREET, WHITECHAPEL.



SECTION.



GROUND STORY.



ONE-PAIR STORY.

THE ARTISANS' HOME,
SPICER-STREET, WHITECHAPEL.

In a recent number of our last volume we described fully the Artisans' Home, recently erected, under the direction of Mr. Beck, in Spicer-street, Spitalfields,* and we have thought it desirable to make that account complete by preparing plans of the two principal stories and a section through the building. They are drawn to a scale of 32 ft. to an inch.

The following references show the appropriation of the various apartments,—and we may add that the two upper stories are exactly the same as the one-pair:—

A Reading room.
B Coffee room.
C Kitchen.
D Lavatory.
E Cook's bar.
F Library.
G Scullery.
H Hall.
I Superintendent's chamber.
K Ditto living room.
L Ditto office.
M Store room.
N Cook's living room.
O Ditto chamber.
P Entrance to W. C. and urinals.
Q Cook's shop.
R (First-floor plan) ventilation shaft.
S S Lavatories.
T T T T Dormitories.

PRICE OF LAND IN PLYMOUTH.—The Commissioners of Improvement have recently purchased land to the extent of 700 square feet, at the price of a guinea a-foot. The land is required for widening of Bedford-street. The same land might a few years since have been bought at less than one-fourth of the price.

* Page 569, Vol. VII.

VENTILATION.

DR. CHOWNE lays much stress on his *syphon-pipe* acting without the aid of artificial heat, but however satisfactory this may be made to appear in an experiment, it will be found in practice that the action going on in a pipe will be proportioned to the degree of heat (as either applied to the pipe, or in the air once made to enter it), and the difference in the height of the inlet and outlet of the said pipe; this cannot be disputed, and, therefore, may be called the true theory of the matter. The disturbing causes are then to be taken into consideration, and although these in practice vary much in detail, they may be classed under two heads, viz., obstruction by high winds or eddies at the top, and suspension or withdrawal of the supply at the bottom.

If there is any truth in the science of pneumatics, as at present understood, we are taught that the air of the atmosphere at any given level, presses equally in all directions; therefore, as the bent part of Dr. Chowne's pipe, which gives it the *syphon* character, is not of the slightest utility, and certainly has not the plea of beauty to recommend it, I should cut off the whole of the bent part, or in other words, un-*syphon* it; thus, if it were cut in a line with the top of the short leg, the power of action in the pipe would be equal—if at the bottom of the long leg, the advantage would be increased in proportion to the vertical height of the short leg so cut off.

The flow of air through a pipe, like the flow of water, is a purely natural effect, and the only office the pipe has to perform is simply to protect the fluid from interference, and consequent dispersion, previous to arrival at its destination; the tendency of water being downwards, and that of air upwards. The syphon is a very useful invention; but would any person, having to bring water permanently from an elevated reservoir or cistern, think of applying a syphon? Certainly not; he would insert his pipe in the bottom, and thus allow the contents to be conveyed in any downward direction at pleasure. Such is the refinement of the age, that not content with the exquisite workmanship in the doors and sashes, we must needs have even the smallest chinks around them covered with list, or some similar contrivance to prevent the possibility of a breath of air entering from without; and yet, in rooms thus all but hermetically sealed, we expect free and healthy action in the lungs of the occupants, and also in the chimney, both of which are impossible under such circumstances. The want of the first of these desiderata is, I fear, doing its work to a far greater extent among the people of England than can well be imagined by them, owing to the invisible and subtle nature of its attacks; and when its victims are made sensible of its effects, they are attributed to any and every cause but the right one. The latter addresses itself to the senses in a more substantial form, and thus compels attention; this is afforded in the first instance by a contraction in the chimney opening, and a narrowing of the throat to the smallest possible area, by the introduction of registers or otherwise, and is so far all very well; but, in order to meet the deficiency of supply of air, a further expedient has been found necessary, and has met with most extensive adoption,—so much so that the demand has, if not given rise to, added very considerably to the numbers and importance in London and other large towns of a trade till lately comparatively unknown. I allude to that of the zinc-worker; and as many of their productions would do credit to any body or any country, and are in unison with the improvements in the arts and manufactures of the present day, I should be sorry to say anything offensively of them,—but when I view the variety and number of chimney-tops, ranged rank and file adown their roomy shops, or cast my eye above,—for, look which way you will, wherever you can get a view of the house tops, you see them thrusting out

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